

6 Consultation and References

Interagency Review

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. On November 25, 2001, the Trust and the NPS requested formal consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) pursuant to section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, concerning the Presidio Trails and Bikeways Master Plan (Presidio Trust and NPS 2001B). Prior to initiation of formal consultation, NPS and Trust representatives met and toured the Presidio with the USFWS on November 6, 2000 to discuss and orient the parties to the project. The Trust and NPS again met with USFWS staff on May 17, 2002 to discuss effects and descriptions of the projects. In the time between the initial meeting and request for formal consultation, the Trust and NPS corresponded verbally and in writing with the USFWS to review and discuss the project and consultation requirements. On July 23, 2002, the USFWS issued its Final Biological Opinion on the effects of the action on the endangered Raven's manzanita, San Francisco lessingia, Presidio clarkia, and the threatened Marin dwarf flax (USFWS 2002). After reviewing the current status of these plants, the environmental baseline for the action area, the effects of the proposed action and

the cumulative effects, the Final Biological Opinion concluded that the Presidio Trails and Bikeways Master Plan, as proposed, is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of these species, or adversely affect critical habitat of these species, as none has been designated. The biological opinion also notes that, "in addition to habitat restoration, the Trails Plan will benefit native plant communities, including federally listed plants, and wildlife by managing human access and redirecting access away from sensitive habitat areas."

San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission. As the coastal management agency for the San Francisco Bay, the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) is responsible for ensuring that activities occuring within the coastal zone are consistent with the coastal zone management program for San Francisco Bay. The Bay Plan establishes policies to guide development in and around San Francisco Bay. The Bay Plan designates the Presidio as a waterfront park priority use area and states that the shoreline and the undeveloped areas in the Presidio should be retained as a regional park. Under the Coastal Zone Management Act, federal agencies are

generally required to carry out their activities and programs in a manner consistent with the coastal management program. To implement this provision, federal agencies make consistency determinations on their proposed activities, such as the Presidio Trails and Bikeways Master Plan.

NPS and Trust staff met and toured the Presidio with BCDC staff during project scoping to identify issues of concern. In correspondence with the Trust, the BCDC noted the importance of the adequacy of the public access provided through the Presidio from both surrounding neighborhoods, and from areas within the Presidio to the San Francisco Bay (BCDC 2001). The BCDC also acknowledged the extensive public access directly along the shoreline in Area A, and reinforced the importance of providing trail connections to the bay and its shoreline through and from Area B to Area A (BCDC 2002). As part of the submittal for the consistency determination for the Presidio Trust Management Plan, the BCDC reviewed the conceptual connections and locations for both pedestrian and bicycle trails in the Presidio that have been further refined and incorporated into the Presidio Trails and Bikeways Master Plan. The BCDC staff expressed an interest in reviewing the Presidio Trails and Bikeways

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Master Plan to determine: 1) the adequacy of proposed path widths and surfaces adjacent to sensitive resources and the appropriateness of the amenities proposed along these corridors, and 2) whether the proposed trails and bikeways system would provide a safe and enjoyable experience for users. On August 1, 2002, the BCDC found that the PTMP is consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the Bay Plan's policies on public access, and the Trust agreed to submit a separate consistency determination for the Presidio Trails and Bikeways Master Plan.

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation/
California State Historic Preservation
Officer. Section 106 of the National Historic
Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended
(16 U.S.C. 470f), requires the NPS and the Trust
agencies to take into account the effect of their
undertakings on historic and cultural resources,
including the National Historic Landmark District.
The NPS and the Trust each entered into
programmatic agreements (PA) with the Advisory
Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) and the
California State Historic Preservation Officer
(SHPO) that apply to all undertakings under their
jurisdictions. The PAs provide a framework for
reviewing the project effects internally and for

consulting with other parties under certain circumstances. NPS and Trust staff have reviewed the draft Presidio Trails and Bikeways Master Plan and have concluded that the proposed undertaking will not have an adverse effect on historic properties, and will submit the draft Presidio Trails and Bikeways Master Plan to the ACHP and SHPO with a request for concurrence. This information will be supplemented at a later date by written comments on the draft plan received by the public, and the record of commentary during the public review period. Prior to preparation of a Finding of No Significant Impact, the NPS and the Trust will consult with the SHPO and ACHP to seek consensus regarding the effects of the Presidio Trails and Bikeways Master Plan. If there is a lack of consensus, consultation to address unresolved issues will be initiated. In addition, the NPS and the Trust will conduct additional review and consultation as warranted prior to implementation of trail segments where cultural landscape effects could occur.

List of Persons and Agencies Consulted

Carla Chenault, Project Analyst, California State Coastal Conservancy

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